

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN MASTERS WATER POLO ASSOCIATION, HELD AT TED ALLEN ROOM, JOAN HARRISON POOL, EAST LONDON ON WEDNESDAY 18TH MARCH 2026 AT 18H00

IN ATTENDANCE:

AS PER THE ATTENDANCE REGISTER

1. WELCOME

1.1 The Chairman, Mr Jared Wingate-Pearse welcomed all persons attending the 2026 Annual General Meeting.

2. APOLOGIES/ ATTENDANCE

2.1 Provinces in attendance were:

- Border
- Central Gauteng
- Easterns
- Natal
- Northerns
- Western Province
- Zimbabwe

2.2 Apologies:

- Eastern Province – proxy given to Border
- Zambia

2.3 Attendance was as per the attendance register attached hereto.

3. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING DATED 19TH MARCH 2025

3.1 Brett Redelinghuys commented that the minutes were incorrect in the following areas: (*Amendments in red*).

9.2.1: The Facebook group for SA Masters Waterpolo, which was setup by Brett Redelinghuys in his own capacity, has been renamed to Masters Waterpolo South Africa.

This was name chosen by the SAMWP provincial delegates out of 2 options. This site is now fully independent of SAMWP and will remain so. It will post all water polo related info with a focus on Masters but will not be limited to that.

9.2.2 It was agreed that some sort of vetting of posts needs to be put in place.

On the NEW SA Masters WP pages that will be run by SAMWP, yes there will be vetting by the board by whomever runs this page. The page run by Mike and I will remain independent but all views, posts and responses are welcome.

9.2.3 Brett Redelinghuys and Jared Wingate-Pearse will advise how this will be addressed.
Not correct. I will not have any say in this page or any of the social media pages by SAMWP (it would be a conflict of interest). As above the board will be the decider on who runs it etc. They will set up agreement with whomever runs the page to vet anything etc.

3.2 There being no other matters arising, the previous minutes were proposed by Brett Redelinghuys from Western Province and seconded by Richard Potter from Central Gauteng.

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

4.1 On behalf of all the SA Masters Waterpolo players, Jared Wingate-Pearse extended their sincere condolences to the family and friends of players who had passed away since the last AGM namely:

2026	Robbie Prince	Easterns
2026	Murray de Jager	OFS
2025	Faan Baantjies	Central Gauteng
2025	Neville Davies	Western Province
2025	Abie Spies	Northerns
2025	Tommy Osborne	Natal
2025	Butch Garde	Northerns
2025	Shane Petzer	Eastern Province
2025	George Dore	Western Province
2025	Eric Rosenberg	Northerns
2025	Ant Skinner	Eastern Province

4.2 Chairman's report - copy attached to minutes.

- Great to have the tournament in Border again. Been 7 years.
- 41 teams - No Open section and small 30+ section which is a problem that we can hopefully find a solution for.
- First time ever, there is a Ladies section with four (4) teams partaking.
- Border LOC agreed that the Eco Eels Ladies team may take part but not play in the Ladies section due to their side being very young (youngest seven = 21.1).
- They would thus play in the 50+ section
- The 3 out of 4 age groups are all well represented.
 - 30+ 5 sides
 - 40+ 12 sides
 - 50+ 10 sides
 - 60+ 10 sides
 - Ladies 4 sides
- Sincere thanks to Andy Reeves and Border LOC for arranging the tournament.

4.3 There being no matters arising it was proposed by Richard Potter from Central Gauteng and seconded by Chris Beale from Easterns

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

5.1 Copies distributed via email as well as attached to minutes.

5.2 Salient points from the treasurer's report:

- Border paid over the subscriptions for the 2025 tournament
- Two new trophies sponsored for the Ladies section
 - Best Player

- Best Goalkeeper
- Other trophies were sponsored by
 - Winners of the Ladies section – sponsored by Rondebosch Waterpolo Club,
 - Best Defender – sponsored by Paul Harley (ZimNat),
 - Spirit of Masters (Individual) – sponsored by the Potter Family (Central Gauteng),
 - Ladies Owen Stokie award – sponsored by QP Geezers (Natal)
- Costumes
 - New costumes were purchased to cover 2026 awards and replenish stock
- Favourable balance on the account R42,512.71 as at 10 March 2026.

5.3 Note from the 2025 AGM Minutes:

Point 5.3: 2025 subs will remain unchanged at R50/player, however, the subs will be increased to R100/player – effective from the 2026 tournament.

5.4 There being no other queries arising from the financials, acceptance was proposed by Mike von Bardeleben of Northerns and seconded by Chris Beale of Easterns.

6. NOMINATIONS FOR NEW OFFICE BEARERS

6.1 The following members were elected: -

Executive

Jared Wingate-Pearse	-	Chairman
Ian van Zyl	-	Secretary
Ian van Zyl	-	Treasurer

Representatives

Central Gauteng	-	Richard Potter & Dominique Riley
Western Province	-	Brett Redelinghuys & Rod Panagos
Border	-	Andrew Reeves & Derek Breetske
Eastern Province	-	Rob Rowles & Gavin Metzler
Natal	-	Donn Stewart & Gregg Higgs
Northerns	-	Mike von Bardeleben & Peter Blaauw
Easterns	-	Chris Beale & Karl Schutte
Zimbabwe	-	Rob Hammond & Paul Harley
Zambia	-	David Chilvers

Blue = new member

6.2 Updated details of provincial representatives are attached hereto.

7. SOUTH AFRICAN MASTERS WATER POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS 2027-2028

7.1 Natal advised that Kings Park in Durban is currently not an option.

7.2 Michaelhouse school in the Midlands was proposed as an alternative but needs to be confirmed by the end of April 2026.

7.3 No other bids were submitted.

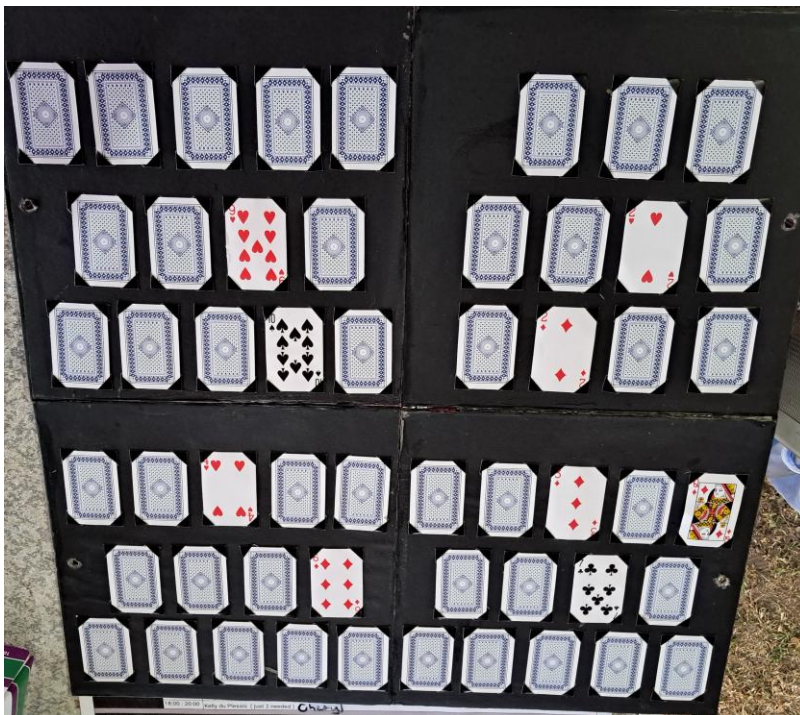
8. SELECTION OF A DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

- 8.1 For any disciplinary hearing required at the tournament, the following will be required to be present:
- Tournament directors
 - Referees involved in the game
 - Chairman of SAMWP
- 8.2 Provinces to provide suitably qualified referees to assist if called upon.

9. GENERAL

9.1 Joker Draw

- Easterns will be running a “Joker Draw” that is common in clubs’ fund raising efforts.
- Each ticket will cost R10.00.
- All tickets sold on the day will go into the daily draw – no carry over to the next day.
- Three (3) tickets per night will be drawn.
- Chris Beale will advise the percentage split and allocations once the overheads have been accounted for.
- The Joker Draw board has been locked by Karl Schutte and will remain so until next year’s Masters tournament.



9.2 60+ Age Groupings and Handicapping

- Detailed analysis attached to these AGM Minutes.
- Decision taken by the Executive:
 - Stay with the Youngest 7 rule
 - Suggest a recommended minimum age of 55 and older to play in the 60+ age division, however, exceptions need to be raised with the SA Masters Waterpolo Executive who will make the final call.

9.3 Handicapping of Mixed Teams (Ladies Ages)

9.3.1 From the 2024 AGM minutes – point 9.2 refers. Extract included below:

Ladies team(s) should:

- *Be afforded the opportunity to initially select the age group they would like to participate in (e.g. a younger team playing in an older age group)*
- *The standard Masters age grouping should be applied; however, it may be subject to change as suggested by the LOC and approved by the Chairman of SA Masters Waterpolo.*

9.4 Proposed changes to SA Masters Waterpolo – by Brett Redelinghuys

Email to Brett from the Secretary on 10 March 2026: With respect to your additional suggestions: while these may be raised under "General" during the meeting, please note they cannot be accepted as formal submissions for the pre-distributed agenda at this stage.

Notice of the 2026 AGM was issued on 20 February, and the full meeting pack was distributed yesterday (9 March). As these suggestions were received only one week prior to the meeting—following a three-week notice period for submissions—they cannot be accepted for formal inclusion or prior consideration at this late notice. Furthermore, the depth of discussion required for these items would likely exceed the time specifically allotted for the AGM.

- Brett did distribute his proposal via WhatsApp on the SA Masters Provincial Reps group
- Some of the items were addressed, others not and would have to be re-tabled for next year's AGM.
 - Redraw the constitution (refer #9.8)
 - Change from Provincial Reps to Club Reps (refer #9.9)
 - Expand the Board who run SA Master's (not discussed)
 - Add following Board position as a matter of urgency:
 - 30+ Open Section development Officer/ Person (refer #9.6)
 - Marketing / Media (not discussed)
 - Financing this portfolio (not discussed)
 - Player Ages (not discussed but refer #9.2 and #9.3)

9.5 Young Players at Masters

- Masters attendance caps starts at the age of 25.
- The individual must turn 25 by the end of December of the tournament year to be eligible for an attendance cap.
- All younger players that are not 25 should have their previous Masters attendance record expunged.

9.6 Growing the Open section at Masters

- The suggestion that each Province must sponsor or co-sponsor at least one (1) team in the 30+ division in order to grow this section.
- These young players may have their own challenges in being able to afford playing at Masters.
- Each Province should raise funds to offer some form of contribution to a younger team to attend Masters.
- No cap is placed on the level of sponsorship.

9.7 SA Masters Waterpolo and SA Waterpolo

Working Together for South African Water Polo: SA Masters Waterpolo (SAMWP) fully supports the initiatives led by SA Waterpolo (SAWP) to modernize and improve the administration of our sport. We believe a unified approach is the best way to ensure the future of water polo in South Africa.

To support this growth, we **encourage all Masters players to register** with SA Waterpolo.

Note: Registration with SAWP is currently voluntary for our annual tournament; it is not a mandatory requirement to participate in the SA Masters Waterpolo tournament.

Refer: <https://www.samasterswaterpolo.co.za/about/sa-masters-waterpolo-and-sawp/>

9.8 Review and/or Revising the SA Masters Waterpolo Constitution

- It was suggested that the current constitution be revisited and updated if necessary.
- <https://www.samasterswaterpolo.co.za/about/sa-masters-constitution/>
- The Executive has actioned the review.
- Once feedback is received, the revised constitution will be shared.
- The Provincial Reps will then either be requested to vote on the revised constitution via WhatsApp or physical vote at the next AGM.

9.9 Social Media representative

- The Executive has been asked to consider the appointment of a dedicated social media resource.
- This is currently being considered.

9.10 Provincial vs Club Representation

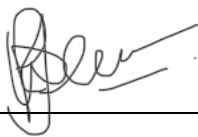
- Change from Provincial Reps to Club Reps in terms of AGM meetings OR doing away with Reps altogether – keep it Member only.
- Makes more representative of the community who attends Masters.
- **This motion did not carry – the status will remain with Provincial Representation.**

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

10.1 The date of the next Annual General Meeting will be on the Wednesday night prior to the commencement of the 2026 tournament – dates to be finalised.

11. CLOSURE

11.1 There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 19h15.



Chairman

2025-04-07

Date

Attendance Register:

Chairman	Jared Wingate-Pearse	Present	jaredwp8@gmail.com
Secretary	Ian van Zyl	Present	ianvanzyl@gmail.com
Finance	Ian van Zyl	Present	ianvanzyl@gmail.com
Border	Andrew Reeves	Present	andrew@reevesgroup.co.za
	Derek Breetzke	Present	derek@africanblue.co.za
Central Gauteng	Richard Potter	Present	richard@hilltop215.co.za
	Dominique Riley	Present	riley.dom@icloud.com
Eastern Province	Rob Rowles	Apologies	robrowles7@gmail.com
	Gavin Metzeler	Apologies	gavin@algaobatteries.co.za
Easterns	Chris Beale	Present	cbeale@telkomsa.net
	Karl Schutte	Present	karl0470@gmail.com
Natal	Donn Stewart	Present	donn@shongwenibrewery.com
	Gregg Higgs	Present	gregg.higgs8@gmail.com
Northerns	Mike von Bardeleben	Present	mike7@mweb.co.za
	Peter Blaauw	Present	peter@blaauwfamily.co.za
Western Province	Brett Redelinghuys	Present	brettredd@gmail.com
	Rod Panagos	Present	rod@rivca.co.za
Zambia	David Chilvers	Apologies	lukugems@gmail.com
Zimbabwe	Rob Hammond	Apologies	robh@zol.co.zw
	Paul Harley	Present	paulharley@afrihost.co.za

Errors and omissions in transcribing the above attributed to *Barley, Hops & Friends*

SOUTH AFRICAN MASTERS WATER POLO

Message from the Chairman

On behalf of the SA Masters Water Polo Committee and the LOC from Border, I would like to welcome you all to the 36th Annual SA Masters Water Polo Tournament.

We welcome all the teams who have travelled from afar to join us in Buffalo City for another Masters tournament hosted at the Joan Harrison Swimming complex. A fantastic and well run tournament was enjoyed in 2025.

Thanks must go out to Andy Reeves and his team for accommodating us at this brilliant water polo venue. We wish his team and helpers all the best for the long weekend.

2026 has an exciting tournament ahead of us and for the first time ever we are so excited to have a ladies section. We can't wait for the additional value that the ladies will bring to the tournament, a long time coming and happy we have finally got it going. We have 40+ teams playing over 4 different age groups ranging from 30+ to 60+ years of age. 490+ players will be enjoying some drinks with old and new friends.

Masters water polo has a wealth of experience, knowledge and resource that provide an important stakeholder group to contribute to the health of water polo in South Africa - so please consider yourself both an important part of the past, but also of the future of South African water polo. That is something to be celebrated.

Enjoy the tournament and bring along the Masters values to make this another successful edition of the Masters water polo legacy.

Jared Wingate-Pearse

Chairman: SA Masters Water Polo

SOUTH AFRICAN MASTERS WATER POLO

INCOME STATEMENT

INCOME	2026	2025	2024
Interest earned on Savings Account	1,837	2,479	1,669
Subscription from Previous Masters	19,200	23,500	16,414
Sale of costumes			
Bad Debts Recovered / Written Off			
TOTAL INCOME :	21,037	25,979	18,083
EXPENDITURE			
Costumes	13,950	15,510	4,875
Trophies	6,375	6,653	5,497
Web support	335	755	690
Replacement caps			
Travel, Disbursements, etc.			
Bank Charges	8	16	10
Honorium			
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	20,668	22,933	11,072
PROFIT/(LOSS) FOR PERIOD	369	3,046	7,011

BALANCE SHEET FOR PERIOD ENDING 31 MARCH	2026	2025	2024
CURRENT ASSETS			
Costumes on hand - 30 year :			
20 year :			
10 year :			
Debtors			
Caps			
Capitec Bank Savings Account	42,513	42,144	39,098
TOTAL ASSETS	42,513	42,144	39,098
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Costumes			
Trophies		0	0
TOTAL LIABILITIES	0	0	0
CAPITAL EMPLOYED	42,513	42,144	39,098
EMPLOYMENT OF CAPITAL			
Retained earnings previous year	42,144	39,098	32,086
Value of Caps to be written off			
Profit/(Loss) current year	369	3,046	7,011
EFFECTIVE SURPLUS	42,513	42,144	39,098

SA Masters Waterpolo – Financial Report for 2025-2026

Salient points

- Border paid over the subscriptions for the 2025 tournament
- Trophies
 - Masters has agreed to pay for two (2) Ladies Section trophies:
 - Best Player and
 - Best Goal Keeper.
 - These trophies are being sourced by Border on behalf of Masters who still need to submit the invoice.
 - The following floating trophies for the Ladies section have been sponsored:
 - Winners of the Ladies Section – sponsored by Rondebosch Waterpolo Club.
 - Best Defender in the Ladies Section – sponsored by Paul Harley.
 - Individual Spirit of Masters in the Ladies Section – sponsored by Richard Potter.
 - Note that four (4) additional miniature trophies are required for the Ladies Section.
- Costumes
 - Order placed for additional 10, 20 and 30 year costumes.
- Favourable balance on the account R42,512.71 as at 10 March 2026.

TROPHY WINNERS - SA MASTERS WATER POLO – EAST LONDON 2026

Section: 30+

AWARD	TITLE	2026
Winners	Neville Clarence Floating Trophy	RWC Average Joes
Runners up		Paarl Rock Spiders 30
Best Player	Paul Semple Floating Trophy	Ross Van Schoor
Best Goalie	Alan Kaye Floating Trophy	Milton Caldis

Section: 40+

AWARD	TITLE	2026
Winners	Des Foster Memorial Trophy	Sleeves
Runners up		Maties Old Boys
Best Player	Terry Downes Floating Trophy	Thomas Beare
Best Goalie	Ronnie de Fin Floating Trophy	James Winter

Section: 50+

AWARD	TITLE	2026
Winners	Mike Samuel Floating Trophy	Saints
Runners up		QP Geezers
Best Player	Ted Townsend Floating Trophy	Matt Bowman
Best Goalie	Neville Davies Floating Trophy	Mike Kidson

Section: 60+

AWARD	TITLE	2026
Winners		Zimnat Madalas
Runners up		Coelacanth Extincts
Best Player		Ian Trethowan
Best Goalie		Roger Metelerkamp

Other - Men

TITLE	2026
Kenny McLean Spirit of Masters - Individual	Adam Robertson
Peter Louw Team Spirit Award	Rain Ballers
Paul Semple Walking Stick – oldest player	Jake Frewin (80 years old)
Breetzke Brothers Floating Trophy - Best Defender	Jason Kite
Craig Nancarrow Floating Trophy – most flamboyant player	Adam Turk
“Owen Stokie award” presented by QP Geezers	Rain Ballers

TROPHY WINNERS - SA MASTERS WATER POLO – EAST LONDON 2026

Section: Ladies

AWARD	TITLE	2026
Winners	RWC Trophy	The Rogues
Runners up		Border Betties
Best Player	Masters Trophy	Sarah Bolton
Best Goalie	Masters Trophy	Carol Toich

Other - Ladies

TITLE	2026
Paul Harley Floating Trophy - Best Defender	Ruby Versveld
Richard Potter Spirit of Masters (Individual)	Dominique Riley
QP Geezers Floating Trophy - Team Spirit of Masters	The Turtles

1.1 Age Groupings and Handicapping

1.1.1 The 60+ age group have again expressed concern with younger players playing in this division

I was asked to consider various options during the course of the tournament:

Suggestion

As we grow longer in the tooth so does our initial group also move into the 70 plus age group. I have noticed over the last few years several of the older players are only getting a minute or two or indeed no water time in some games. I don't believe this is in the spirit of masters which is to include all our players.

As such I would like to make the following proposal.

In the oldest age grouping only. (+60)

1. The goalkeeper and six oldest players have to make up the starting 7 for the start of both halves.

2. A signal from the table will indicate the completion of 3 minutes running time ,only after which, can younger players be substituted according to standard playing rules.

3. Team handicaps are based on the 7 oldest players.

4. Cap numbers to be allocated according to age to confirm the ages in the water are in fact the six oldest.

1 Goalkeeper

2 Oldest player in team

3 Second oldest etc.

I believe most players will enjoy the guarantee of a minimum of 6 minutes per game and playing opponents of the same age.

The difference in physical strength between a 65 and 75 year old is unpleasantly significant and this suggestion should hopefully result in a more even competition.

Suggestion

Creating a 70+ division and compiling teams out of a hat to cater for the older players

Suggestion

Limit the entry age for players in the older division.

This could possibly be extended to the other divisions.

1.2 Analysis based on 2026 tournament entries

Monitoring the 2-3min play for starting lineups in the older division

- **Questions that arise:**
 - What happens if the players want less water time?
 - What happens when one of these older players gets replaced – who is allowed to come in?
- **Outcome:**
 - Not really viable and enforceable
 - Adds additional levels of administration and monitoring to the table teams
 - One cannot legislatively "force" participation without compromising the player's right to self-substitute for exhaustion. If they exit early, the "equitable start" is immediately voided, rendering the monitoring moot
 - Enforcing a minimum play time for seniors (to "justify" their spot in a younger-skewed team) can paradoxically become a burden

- Ultimately, the outcome is that complexity kills participation.
- For the Teams: It turns coaching into a math exercise rather than a sport.
- For the Officials: It moves them from "Referees" to "Auditors."
- The Alternative: This is why a Strict Minimum Entry Age (e.g., "Nobody under 55 in the 60+ league") or a Static Goal Handicap (based on the roster's total average age) is almost always preferred. It's "set and forget" - calculated once before the whistle blows, rather than monitored every second during play.

Creating a 70+ league

- 30 players are 69+ this year
- Could create two teams and draw from a hat who plays in each team.
- What happens if they wish to remain with their team mates in other leagues?
- Outcome
 - Most likely to dilute the current 60+ division
 - Two teams of 15 is technically viable for a standalone "70+ Exhibition Match," but it isn't enough to sustain a league or a full tournament bracket. A healthy division usually requires at least 4 to 5 teams to avoid repetitive matchups.
 - If one pulls these 30 veterans out of the 60+ division, we are removing the "anchor" players who provide the historical average age for teams
 - Masters Water Polo is built on decades-long friendships. A player who is 71 likely wants to play with his 64-year-old clubmates whom he has traveled with for 20 years

Creating a minimum age for play in the older division and using all team members ages in calculating the team handicap.

- This would allow for the “older” players to be more comfortable with the physicality and duty of care of similarly aged competitors
- Prevents “rooster loading”
- The game shifts from raw swimming power to technical skill, positioning, and "old school" tactics. Introducing younger players forces the older players back into a high-speed game they may no longer wish to play
- Outcome
 - Using all team members age in calculating the handicap makes the division much easier to manage administratively. Recognising the age of older players gives them a sense of recognition and strategic value in the team not just a player.
 - If a strict cut-off is too harsh for some teams, Masters may lose those players to the tournament as they may not be able to find a team to play in. Teams facing this predicament should be able to make representation to the Executive as to why they need to include these fringe players. This allows for case-by-case “Common Sense” test to be applied.
 - Limiting the number of below 55 to one (1) per team but representation must be made for their inclusion dilutes the younger influence and prevents a team from being loaded
 - Duty of Care: This is the most critical outcome. By ensuring the vast majority of competitors are within a 10–15 year age band, one significantly reduces the risk of high-speed collisions and over-exertion.

1.3 2026 tournament data

Key	Description
Y7	Youngest 7 as per the 2026 tournament
69+	The number of older players who would be 70 next year
<55	The number of players <55years of age

Key	Description
55+	The number of players 55 and older
Y7-55+	Youngest 7 who are 55 or older
All 55+	Average age of all players
YT	Youngest player in the side at the 2026 tournament
Y55+	Youngest player older or equal to 55 at the 2026 tournament
OT	Oldest team player at the 2026 tournament

Club/Side	Y7	69+	<55	55+	Y7-55+	All 55+	YT	Y55+	OT
COELACANTHS (EXTINCTS)	64.7	4		10	64.7	67.8	58	58	77
DUC MASTERS	61.4		2	5	0.0	64.8	52	57	69
EASTERN MADALAS	59.0	1	2	9	60.7	62.9	54	55	74
PE RAGGIES	63.3	3		11	63.3	66.0	61	61	74
RWC GERIATRICS	64.6			12	64.6	67.6	59	59	76
RWC JOCKS	60.7		1	8	64.1	65.1	46	56	72
RWC KNIGHTS	64.4			9	64.4	66.2	58	58	75
THIRSTY LIONS	61.6	3	2	8	64.7	66.5	51	58	79
WHO ZOO	55.1	5	4	9	68.0	70.7	44	62	80
ZIMNAT MADALAS	61.7	2		14	61.7	64.6	60	60	74

1.4 Observations

- Average age of all players in the 60+ division may lead to unfair goal differences. At the 2026 Tournament, Who Zoo had four (4) of the oldest players at Masters (2x80, 76 & 71). None of them got much water time. If they got 10min each over the course of the tournament it was a lot. By including their average age (63.8) vs tournament age (55.1) they would benefit from the older players but they didn't get much game time.
- If a team has four players averaging 76.75 years old who barely play, they pull the team average up significantly, granting a handicap that the active, younger players (the ones actually swimming) then benefit from. This creates an unfair advantage of a "paper average" rather than a "performance average".
- Some teams are battling to field seven (7) and more players which may affect them if there is a minimum age applicable to the 60+ division.

1.5 Recommendations for the 60+ division

- Stay with the Youngest 7 rule
- Suggest a recommended minimum age of 55 and older to play in the 60+ age division, however, exceptions need to be raised with the SA Masters Waterpolo Executive who will make the final call.